Amendments to the Specification

Please **add** the following paragraph at page 1, line 3:

-- This application claims the benefit, under 35 U.S.C. § 365 of International Application PCT/EP02/14266 filed December 14, 2002, which was published in accordance with PCT Article 21(2) on July 10, 2003 in English and which claims the benefit of European patent application No. 01131036.4, filed December 28, 2001. --

Please **replace** the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 7 with the following **rewritten** paragraph:

-- The problem to be solved by the invention is to classify the data automatically, such that a DBMS can utilize the result of the classification for correct data handling. ~~This problem is solved by the method disclosed in claim 1 and by the apparatus disclosed in claim 5. The output of such apparatus may be directed towards e.g. a DBMS~~.--

Please **replace** the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 7 with the following **rewritten** paragraph:

-- A device ~~as disclosed in claim 5 will execute the~~ <u>in accordance with the principles of the invention executes the</u> following procedure when receiving data on its input:

    If the data contain more than one data item, the output may be: "Data is a Container". More details are given below. Classification may stop here, or may be extended to some, or all, leaves of the hierarchically structured data tree within the Container.

    If data are Metadata, the output may be: "Data are Metadata".

    Otherwise the output may be "Data are Essence".

    If data are Physical Data, an additional output may be "Data are Physical Data".

    Otherwise, if data are Abstract Data, an additional output may be "Data are Abstract Data".

    Advantageously the device can detect and output the type of Physical Data,

e.g. "Data is a color picture (24bit) with the resolution x=200 pixels and y=400 pixels".

If the data format is unknown to the device, and therefore the device is not able to classify the data as Container, Metadata, Essence, Abstract Data or Physical Data, the output may be any default-type output, e.g. "Data type is unknown" or "Data are Essence and Abstract Data".--

Please **replace** the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 32 with the following **rewritten** paragraph:

-- Additionally, it is helpful if the device detects whether data is text or not:

> If data is Abstract Data and text, the output <u>of the procedure</u> may be additionally "Data is Text".

This may be implemented by searching for known words, e.g. from an electronic dictionary, or searching for groups of characters separated by blanks.--